GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1918
ANSWERED ON:15.12.2003
NATIONAL COMMISSION ON CATTLE
BHAWANA GAWALI (PATIL);MANSINH PATEL;RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY;RAOSAHEB PATIL DANVE

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the salient features of the recommendations made by National Commission on Cattle;

(b) whether the Government has examined those recommendations; and

(c) if so, the action taken thereon?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEONARAYAN YADAV)

(a): The salient features of the recommendations made by the National Commission on Cattle are annexed.

(b)&(c): The recommendations of the Commission are under consideration of the Government.

Annexure

CHAPTER - VIII

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COMMISSION

The Recommendations of the National Comrnission on Cattle are as follows:

1. The Prohibition for slaughter of cow and its progeny, which would include bull, bullocks, etc, should be included in Fundamental Rights or as a Constitutional Mandate anywhere else, as an Article ofthe Constitution. It should not be kept only in the Directive Principles or/Fundamental duties as neither of these are enforceable by the courts.

2. The amendment of the Constitution should also be made for empowering the Parliament to maKe a Central Lawfor the prohibition of slaughter of cow and its progeny and further for prohibition of their transport from one State to another. This may be done by shifting the subject and relevant item from the State List to the Central List,or at least to the Concurrent List in the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution.

3. The Parliament should then make a Central Law, applicable to all States, prohibiting slaughter of cowand its progeny. Violation of the Law should be made a non-baiJab!e and cognizable offence. There should be provisionfor sessions trials for offences committed, under the Law, with a punishment of a minimum of three years of rigorous imprisonment and maximum 10 years of rigorous imprisonment with fine. The burden of proof should be on the accused to prove his innocence.

4. The Central Government shouJd constitute a permanent National Cattle Development Commission or RashtriyaGoseva Ayog for preservation and development of cattle all over the country. The Commission should be provided with adequate funds, of say, at least Rs. 100 crores per year.

5. There should be a separate Ministry for Cattle Preservation and Development. It should not be under theDepartment of Animal Husbandry, whose basic mandate is not for cattle preservation but for livestock development and for production of livestock products, including meat products.

6. The Animal Husbandry Department should be reorganized and the subjects allotted to it and the objectivesgiven to it, should be for preservation and development of animals and not for animal food by way of meat, etc.

7. No financial aids should be given by Animal Husbandry or Agriculture Departments for construction, renovationor maintenance of slaughter houses

8. There should be a complete ban on export of beef and veal. Also, steps should be taken to ensure that beefor veal is not allowed to be exported under the guise or pretext of buffalo meat.

9. The Central Government should ensure constitution and functioning of Goseva Ayogs in each of the Statesand also provide these bodies with adequate funds. These Ayogs should be monitored by thle `Rashtriya Go Seva Ayog` to be set up by the Government of

India, as proposed above.

10. The implementation of the Caltle Protection Laws should be ensured through the following:

Creation of Central Catlle Protection - Rapid Task Police Force with regional offices and branchesin all States. It should have a special force deputed on the Bangladesh border to prevent the cattle exodus from the border States and also on the Kerala`s borders with Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka.

In view of Articles 48 and 51 (g) of the Constitution of India, appropriate directions may be givenunder Article 355 or any such provision of the Constitution, to Kerala, Nagaland, Mizoram, Arunachal Pradesh, Tripura, Manipur arid other North Eastern States to enforce the prohibition on slaughter of the cow and its progeny. Special direclions may be given to Kerala to stop importing cattle from neighbouring States for slaughter.

The provision of the existing laws for prevention of cruelty to cattle during transport by rail, truck, road or otherwise, should be effectively enforced. Cruelty to cows during extradion or let-down of milk by giving injections, such as oxytocin, should be prohibited by law and the prohibition should be enforced.

The Government should issue a Circular banning production of leather of slaughtered cattle and amechanism for its enforcement should be evolved. Export of goods made of such leather should be banned.

The penal laws of preventive arrest and detention like POTO, etc., should be, amended to detainsmugglers and organised mafia gangs, who indulge in largescale smuggling of cattle to Bangladesh, West Bengal and Kerala and also in sale of cattle to illegal slaughter houses, operating all over the country.

11. Cross-breeding of indigenous breeds. with imported ca`tlle like Jersey should be prohibited, especially in the breeding tracts of important indigenous breeds. Conservation and preservation of these indigenous breeds should be encouraged. A Nalional Breeding Policy should be evolved and special plans should be developed and implemented, with sizeable financial assistance for developing and preserving indigenous breeds throughout India.

12. Subsidies for purchase of tractors and mechanical appliances for Agriculture should be stopped. Instead, the use of bullocks in ploughing and bullock-driven tractors, generation of power through indigenous electrical equipment and carts should be subsidized, promoted and encouraged.

13. The report of the Organic Manure Task Force Committee 2001 should he accepted and its recommendationsimplemented in total.

14. The use and production of chemical fertilizers and chemical pesticides should be discouraged, subsidies on these items should be reduced or abolished altogether. The use of organic manure should be subsidised and promoted.

15. The recommendation of the XI Sub Group`(on Meat Sector) set up by the Planning Commission for the 10th Plan proposals should be rejected outright.

16. Gaushalas, Gosadans and Pinjrapoles should be organized through voluntary organizations both by Centraland State Governments. The Government should give financial aid for coristruction and maintenance of such Gaushalason the basis of matching grants for day-ta-day expenses; and 70 per cent grant for capital expenses for construction. They must be allowed free land or land at concessional rates, both for construction and for grazing purposes. Sufficient land should also be given for growing fodder for the cattle in these organisations.

17. Pasture lands should be protected, developed and provided for grazing of cattle belonging to farmers at the village level. Forest laws should be amended to provide grazing facilities for cattle within the forest areas or in the outlying lands fringing on the forests.

18. The use of Gober (cow dung) and Gomutra (cow urine) of indigenous breeds of cattle should be promotedextensively in agriculture in the form of different manures, composts, Pest-repellents and pesticides.

19. Encouragement should be given to research in Cow urine therapy such as that done by the Govigyan Anusandan Kendra, Devalapar, Nagpur and CSIR 3t Lucknow and other centers, which led to the recent grant of American Patent No.6410059 foruse of cow urine `Ark` (Distillate) for enhancing the effect of anti-cancer medicines.

20. The Information and Broadcasting Ministry should under take propagation for awareness campaign of qualitiesand virtues of cow milk, cow products, cow urine and cow dung. Acceptance of `Panchgavya` by Ayurvedic Sytem of Medicines should be widely propagated and its benefits explained to the people. The medicines from cow products and iorganic manure utilization should also be given wide publicity by Government Media.

21. In the education and awareness campaign, `Farmans` issued by various Mughal emperors, Akbar, Humayun, Jahangir,and Bahadur Shah Zafar prohibiting cow slaughter during their rule should be widely advertised both in electronic media and other media.

22. In the educational curriculum, the subjects should be introduced on Panchgavya therapy, cow milk, cow urine and other by products of cow, the use of cow and bullock in agriculture, organic manure and medicines prepared from cow dung and cow urine.

23. All India University should be established for the above and such subjects should be introduced in all Universities particularly Agricultural Universities and on Animal Science and in Veterinary Colleges and Universities and Hospitals.

24. The cultivation of fodder and manufacture of feed for cattle should be encouraged. The States should be askedto ensure production of fodder and feed in proportion to the size of their cattle population.

25. In some States, such as Punjab and Haryana, standing crop residues which can be used as fodder are burnt.This should be made a penal offence as precious fodder is being wasted, whereas many States are deficient in fodder.

26. On the pattern of Food Corporation of India, a Fodder Corporation of India should be constituted and branchesshould be established in each State with storage facilities.

27. The Agricultural Universities and Agriculture Ministry with Forest Ministry collaboration should ensurespecial fodder production drive. The State Governments and the Central Government should subsidise the fodder saleon the pattern of food subsidies given to Below Poverty line (BPL) Indian citizens from ration shops, through the Public Distribution System.

28. A circular should be sent by the Central Government directing that the State laws and Municipality laws,prohibiting keeping of cattle in Civil Lines and cities, should be suitably amended to permit the house owner tokeep 2 to 4 cows and their progeny in their houses or campus even in the city areas or town areas. At the same time, strict action should be taken against those cattle owners who allow their cattle loose on the streets.

29. A circular should be sent to the State Governments Panchayats and Municipalities to regulate control, removeand maintain the stray cattle wandering on streets and roadsides without owners. They should be kept in cattle houses or cattle compounds to be maintained by the local Self-Government institutions, Municipalities and Panchayats.

30. The Commission recommends that early steps may be taken for a Parliamentary Legislation applicable to thewhole country by repealing various legislations now in force and a resolution as contemplated in Article 249
(i) may be passed by the Rajya Sabha or action under Article 252 could also be initiated, and a central legislation onthe subject could be brought about to achieve the desired objects and the common problems in different States could be taken care of by such common legislation.

31. While amending the Fundamental Rights chapter of the Constitution, a proviso to Article 19 may be addedafter sub clause 5 `provided, the right to carry on any trade or business shall not in any way extend to the slaughter of the cow and its progeny and / or to conduct business/trade in Beef`.

32. Similar proviso to be added to Article 301 `provided, the right to carry on any trade or business shall not in anyway extend to the slaughter of the cow and its progeny and/or to conduct business/trade in Beef`.

33. In the Concurrent List, the following to be added:

a) Prohibition of Slaughter of cow and its progeny.

b) Laws rel:aling to the movement of cow and its progeny from State to State.

34. To declare the Indian breeds as the national wealth of India and no slaughter of any native breed of our country shall be permilted at any cost.

35. It is recommended that a Central Cattle Commission be permanently constituted, which shall have as representatives,at least eight Members/Directors, one each in charge of i) feed and fodder; ii) cattle movement; iii) on enforcement;
iv) grazing lands; v) breeding; vi) research, analysis and development; vii) organic farming; and
viii) veterinary medical services. Such cattle commissions should also be set up in each State.

36. Grazing lands should compulsorily be set apart, whether Government allotted or temple lands. Use of theselands should be exclusively made available only for cattle grazing and should not be allowed for any other use.

37. If there are any grazing or pasturelands, which have been encroached upon, the encroachment should be immediately removed by the concerned Government authorities.

38. Every State must have a Breed Center, which should concentrate on the development of the indigenous breedsand not on foreign breeds. These breeding centers should also upgrade and develop the breeds.

39. A Cattle Census should be taken regularly and its results compiled speedily. Breed-wise numbers should be recorded and every indigenous breed must be registered.

40. A Cattle Laws Enforcement Directorate should be constituted, which shall be in charge of the movement of cows,bulls, bullocks and calves from place to place and State to State and also monitor whether thr cow/catlle moved outfrom one State, has been utilized for the purpose for which it was sought to be moved.

41. Centres for promotion of the usage of cow urine, dung and Panchagavya, medicines, etc and also research centersto be constituted for the promotion of production and use of alternative source of energy, such as Gobar gas, allernative methods of farming, through use of draught animal power, organic manure, cow urine pesticides etc.

42. Export and Import of beef to be totally banned.

43. `Save the Indian Breed` Campaign to be launched all over the country.

44. There must be a constitutional status of Cow as the National Animal (Rashtriya Prani) and killing of cowand its progeny should be made a constitutional offence.

45. All types of manufacture, sale, use and import of Polythene Bags should be banned and prohibited.

46. Throwing eatables or eatable waste in polythene bags on the streets, roads or in dust bins, within the reach of cattle consumption, should be made a penal offence.

47. The Government should encourage and implement breeding policy by which a genetic improvement and upgradationof existing cross-bred cattle should be brought about by further crossing with good indigenous breeds.

48. The auctioning of all the working bullocks in the Municipality Corporations, Panchayats and other placesshould be stopped. Instead, they should be given retirement and maintained till they die their natural deaths. Their work had been utilized throughout their working life and after that their dung can continue to be used for production of organic manure.

49. Temples and religious places, should be prohibited from selling or auctioning the cattle, which are donated or gifted by worshippers. The trustees of these places should either keep the cattle in their own Goshalas or give them to nearby Goshalas for maintenance.

50. The various recommendations made by the COmmission are based on the suggestions given by the Committeeson different issues, given in the relevant Chapters viz. Chapter III.